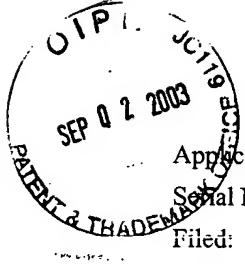


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

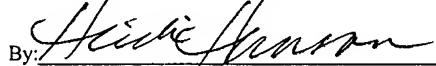


Applicant: NOBUHARA et al. Examiner: BOYD<sup><</sup> J.  
Serial No.: 09/837,102 Group Art Unit: 1771  
Filed: 18 April 2001 Docket: 13438.9US01  
Confirmation No.: 9004 Notice of Allow. N/A  
Due Date: N/A Date:  
Title: FILTER CARTRIDGE AND PROCESS FOR PRODUCING THE SAME

RECEIVED  
SEP 08 2003  
TC 1700

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: , Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on August 28, 2003.

  
By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name: Heidi Hanson

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

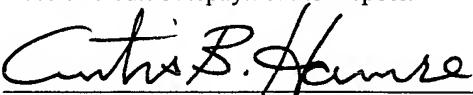
Sir:

We are transmitting herewith the attached:

- Transmittal Sheet in duplicate containing Certificate of Mailing
- Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement, Form 1449, 4 Reference(s)
- Check for \$180.00 for Information Disclosure Statement Fee
- Return postcard

Please consider this a PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME for a sufficient number of months to enter these papers or any future reply, if appropriate. Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.  
P.O. Box 2903, Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903  
612.332.5300

By:   
Name: Curtis B. Hamre  
Reg. No.: 29,165  
CBH:hjh





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SEP 08 2003  
TC 1700

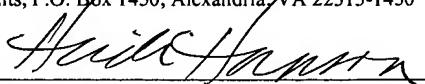
PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: NOBUHARA et al. Examiner: BOYD, J.  
Serial No.: 09/837,102 Group Art Unit: 2882  
Filed: 18 April 2001 Docket No.: 13438.9US01  
Title: FILTER CARTRIDGE AND PROCESS FOR PRODUCING THE SAME

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on August 28, 2003.

By:   
Name: Heidi Hanson

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c))

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

With regard to the above-identified application, the items of information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are brought to the attention of the Examiner.

This statement should be considered because it is submitted after the mailing date of a first Office Action on-the-merits or a first Office Action after filing a Request for Continued Examination under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 or a CPA under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d), but before the mailing date of: i) a final action under 37 C.F.R. § 1.113; ii) a Notice of Allowance under 37 C.F.R. § 1.311; or iii) an action that otherwise closes prosecution on the application. Enclosed is a check in the amount of \$180.00 under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) for consideration of the items listed on the enclosed Form 1449.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2), a copy of each document or other information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 is provided.

No representation is made that a reference is "prior art" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 and Applicants reserve the right, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 or otherwise, to establish that the reference(s) are not "prior art." Moreover, Applicants do not represent that a

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reference has been thoroughly reviewed or that any relevance of any portion of a reference is intended.

Consideration of the items listed is respectfully requested. Pursuant to the provisions of M.P.E.P. 609, it is requested that the Examiner return a copy of the attached Form 1449, marked as being considered and initialed by the Examiner, to the undersigned with the next official communication.

Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.  
P.O. Box 2903  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903  
(612) 332-5300

Dated: 28 August 2003

By Curtis B. Hamre  
Curtis B. Hamre  
Reg. No. 29,165

CBH:hjh



FORM 1449* INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT IN AN APPLICATION (Use several sheets if necessary)		Docket Number: 13438.9US01	Application Number: 09/837,102
		Applicant: NOBUHARA et al.	
		Filing Date: 18 April 2001	Group Art Unit: 1771

## **U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

## **FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
						YES	NO

**OTHER DOCUMENTS** (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)




EXAMINER \_\_\_\_\_ DATE CONSIDERED \_\_\_\_\_ PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form for next communication to the Applicant.